



# Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs

Building partnerships to enhance intergovernmental relations, social and economic prosperity for the 22 Indian Tribes/Nations of Arizona

SEPT 2008

ACIA's MONTHLY COMMUNICATION BETWEEN STATE GOVERNMENT AND ARIZONA INDIAN COUNTRY

## HAVASUPAI TRIBE SURVIVES FLOOD—BEGINS TO REBUILD VILLAGE

Supai, AZ—the Havasupai Tribes, known as the People of the Blue-Green Water, survived another disastrous flood recently. On Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, a flash flood hit Supai Village as a result of heavy, localized rain, compounded by the breach of the Redlands Dam on non-Indian land. This was not the first time the Redlands Dam broke causing a wall of water to surge through the Village.

The Tribe is grateful that no lives were lost, however some livestock perished.

"The Tribe is extremely grateful for the support and assistance we have received from other government agencies and charities," said Chairman Don Watahomigie. "This flood was bad, but the effects would have been much worse if evacuation efforts were not coordinated so well."

The flood caused damage to some homes in the village and flood waters devastated the tourist campgrounds and the hiking trails leading to the campgrounds from the Village.

"Due to the loss of nearly all our tourist facilities and extensive damage to our hiking trails, no tourists will be allowed into Supai until further notice from Tribal council," said Billy Jack, director of Tourism. "It may take two months or more to rebuild. We just don't know how long," he said.

The Tribal council has coordinated to have professional damage assessment teams to inspect the homes, trails and campground facilities. Once the extent of the damage is known, the Tribe will begin the long process to rebuild. According to Vice-Chairman Putesoy, "We rely on our tourism industry to support our tribal government programs. This shut-down will really hurt us. But we will survive."

Rebuilding tourist hiking trails and the campground facilities will be a high priority for the Tribe. "We will open things up as fast as we can," said Billy Jack, Tourist Manager.

The Tribal Council thanks all agencies who have assisted, including Governor Janet Napolitano, among others.

The Havasupai Tribal Council is requesting financial, technical and supplies assistance.

Havasupai Tribe Flood Damage Information Contact:

Thomas Siyuja, Sr.  
Havasupai Emergency Coordinator  
Tel : 928 448 2257 Fax: 928 448 2551  
[environmental@havasupai-nsn.gov](mailto:environmental@havasupai-nsn.gov)

Flood Relief Donations:  
Ron Quasula at [nativefire1@yahoo.com](mailto:nativefire1@yahoo.com)

Havasupai Tribal Disaster Fund  
Account # 7089718444  
Wells Fargo Bank Arizona  
330 East Beale Street  
Kingman, AZ 86401

For more information contact [info@havasupai-nsn.gov](mailto:info@havasupai-nsn.gov)

ACIA is:

Kenneth Poocha,  
*Executive Director*

Traci L. Morris,  
*Program Specialist*

Lorie Wells,  
*Administrative Assistant*

[www.azcia.gov](http://www.azcia.gov)  
[traci.morris@azcia.gov](mailto:traci.morris@azcia.gov)  
or call 602-542-3123

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## SPECIAL!!!

### *2007-2008 Arizona Tribal/Urban Indian*

#### *Community Resource Directory*

*at the reduced rate of \$10 (previously \$15)*

Contact Lorie Wells at: [Lorie.wells@azcia.gov](mailto:Lorie.wells@azcia.gov) Or 602-254-3123

To add your event to the Newsletter Calendar or the ACIA website calendar please contact:

Traci L. Morris  
at:

[www.azcia.gov](http://www.azcia.gov) or [traci.morris@azcia.gov](mailto:traci.morris@azcia.gov)  
or call 602-542-3123

### Spotlight on Tribal Liaisons: Brian Davidson, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Brian Davidson is the Ombudsman, Tribal Liaison and Central Arizona Community Liaison at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. He has worked for ADEQ for five years and has been the Tribal Liaison for four years. Tribal members have given him the nickname "Sunshine."

Although he was born in Southern California, Brian moved to Arizona before he was one year old. He is a graduate of Maryvale High School and has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science from Northern Arizona University. While at NAU he served as the Student Body Vice President and learned the value of serving his fellow students and their concerns.

Brian currently works with the many different tribes in Arizona, as the state's decisions can affect tribal lands just as much as federal decisions. Development permits and compliance issues near and around tribal lands are the main reasons why tribes work with Brian and ADEQ. In addition, tribes have applied for and received Recycling Grants and Water Quality Improvement Grants through ADEQ. Brian's hard work in building relationships with tribes has enabled Arizona tribes to have more say in developments that may have an environmental impact on their land.



## Save the Date Announcements

*5<sup>th</sup> Annual Native American Alzheimer's Conference* on September 12, 2008. Hosted by Banner Health. Contact: [Rose-Ann.Barton@bannerhealth.com](mailto:Rose-Ann.Barton@bannerhealth.com)

*Governor's Rural and Regional Development Conference* on September 24-26, 2008. Hosted by the Arizona Department of Commerce and the Arizona Association for Economic Development. Info TBA

*Wilma Mankiller* on October 2<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Hosted by the Heard Museum. This is the Second Simon Ortiz and Labriola Center lecture on Indigenous Land, Culture and Community. For more information, visit [www.heard.org](http://www.heard.org)

*Indian Gaming Regulatory Act Conference* on October 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. Hosted by the Indian Legal Program at ASU's Sandra Day O'Connor's School of Law. <http://ilp.law.asu.edu/>

*National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention and Trade Show* on October 19-24. Held at the Hyatt Regency, Phoenix, AZ. Keynote Speaker: Kevin Gover, Director of the National Museum of the American Indian. Registration: <http://www.ncai.org/Registration.317.0.html>

*3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Native American Fatherhood Conference* on October 27-30<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Hosted by Native American Fatherhood and Families Association (NAFFA) [www.nativeamericanfathers.org](http://www.nativeamericanfathers.org)

*ASU West Campus Veteran's Day Weekend Traditional Pow-Wow*. Hosted by ASU West Campus. [westevents@asu.edu](mailto:westevents@asu.edu) or 602-543-5306.

*2008 Strengthening Indian Youth Conference* on November 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>. Hosted by the University of Arizona, Tucson. Contact: [www.aieacorp.org](http://www.aieacorp.org)

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pueblo Grande Museum Art Market* on December 13 & 14, 2008. Contact: [www.pgindianmarket.com](http://www.pgindianmarket.com)

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## Banner Alzheimer's Institute hosting dementia conference for Arizona's Native American community

On Sept. 12, Banner Alzheimer's Institute will host the 5th Annual Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia in Native Americans at the Little America Hotel in Flagstaff. The event is the region's premiere dementia conference for tribal members and will feature presentations from some of the state's leading experts in the field.

Arizona's Native American population is among the state's most underserved groups when it comes to dementia care. Several reservations including those for the Navajo, Hopi, Tohono O'odham and White Mountain Apache tribes are located in rural areas where memory loss specialists are hard to find. In addition, many tribal communities have cultural values and traditions that make it unlikely for caregivers to seek assistance.

This year's conference is expected to draw at least 300 tribal members and will address topics important to both family and professional caregivers including:

- Strategies for living day to day
- Medications to manage behavior
- Non-pharmaceutical approaches to managing behavior
- How to keep your brain active
- Beyond day to day care - Taking care and getting help
- Building dementia programs
- Identifying resources to help caregivers
- The role of traditional medicine

Banner Alzheimer's Institute took over the conference from Sun Health Research Institute last year. It is now a central part of the Native American Outreach Program launched by Banner Alzheimer's Institute earlier this year to promote awareness of Alzheimer's disease in the tribal community. "We're going out to tribal communities, providing awareness and developing working relationships," said Filmer Lalio, community outreach coordinator for the outreach program. Lalio recently joined the Institute after spending three years working for the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System as a liaison to case managers working with tribal long term care communities. "This is an historic opportunity to provide information and assistance to a group that can really benefit from it," said Lalio, a member of the Zuni tribe.

In addition to the conference, the Native American Outreach Program is involved in the following:

- **An Alzheimer's awareness campaign.** The Institute is networking with case managers, tribal officials and other stakeholders on reservations, spreading information about dementia and discussing resources available to patients and their care partners.
- **Medical education.** Clinicians from the Institute's medical staff travel to reservations where they provide training to physicians, other clinicians and support staff in the medical community.
- **An aging study.** Banner Alzheimer's Institute recently assumed control of a research study started by Sun Health Research Institute that is examining the effects of aging on a group of 40 Native American volunteers. The cohort is part of a broader study of people of all races in which participants are given annual neurological and physical exams as well as memory and thinking tests. Study participants include a mix of cognitively healthy individuals and dementia patients.

Conference details:

**WHAT:** Details on the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia in Native Americans

**WHERE:** Little American Hotel, 2515 E. Butler Ave., Flagstaff

**WHEN:** Sept. 12. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Conference ends at 4:30 p.m.

**COST:** Free